the maximum number provided for in the Act and there is no difficulty in the working of the provisions of the Local Boards Act. The other point made against this resolution is that it may tend towards asking for a sort of nomination and it may involve the slur that the man does not come by way of election. I submit it is a wrong construction put upon the whole proposal. The idea underlying this resolution is not that we must come through the back door; that will be the case with nominations which rest entirely on the will of the Executive. But this is the case of an enactment by means of which the Legislative Council gives sanction to the idea that its Members are entitled to be on the local bodies of the districts from which they come for the purpose of the proper transaction of business and proper translation of the measures, etc., that may be passed by this Council. Therefore, that slur which is intended to be attached to this motion to the effect that it would mean the seeking of membership of local bodies by a back door is not at all true or justifiable. So, I would suggest that this resolution may be accepted."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—"Sir, I second the motion and in so doing I beg to submit that this cannot possibly be a party motion because it will be construed, if not in this House at least elsewhere, as a sort of joint conspiracy between both the parties so that they can impose themselves on the local boards and municipalities. Well, Sir, it has got this great advantage, namely, that hon. Members of this House will come into direct touch and direct contact with all that is going on in their districts and would not, probably, put questions (which may perhaps be necessary sometimes or which may be perhaps unnecessary sometimes) to the hon. Ministers as regards what is happening in their individual districts. It will give us also facilities for communicating to the local bodies whose areas some of us here represent what all is happening here so far as it concerns them. On the whole it will be a very wholesome sort of fear to have hon. Members of this House being present, if only they care to, at the local bodies' meetings and take such interest in local matters as they are generally expected to do, and in this way they can have first-hand information about the taluk boards, district boards and municipalities. In that view, I do not think that any hon. Member of this House will have cause legitimately to oppose this resolution. If at all any motion till now is of a self-pleasing or self-complacent nature, it is perhaps this. (Laughter.) So, Sir, if we can at once transmute ourselves into members of local boards and municipalities in our respective areas, I for one see no reason why we should not do so."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

XII

DURATION OF THE COUNCIL SITTINGS.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Mr. Deputy President, may I, with your permission, know whether the hon. House will consent to an arrangement which I am suggesting largely in the interests of the House itself and because of the comparatively sparse attendance of the House? I do not mean to say that with regard to the resolutions there is not intense feeling.

24th August 1925] [Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

The suggestion I am making is this : that if hon. Members will stop non-official business with to-day and finish official business to-morrow, Government will only be too glad to give three days for non-official business in October and if necessary give that non-official business precedence over Government business, so that there may be no ground for discontent. May I ask whether that meets with the approval of the hon. Members of this House ? "

* Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I am speaking only for myself in the few observations I am going to make. I also think—I hope there are also some other hon. Members agreeing with me—that the arrangement suggested by the hon. the Leader of the House will be convenient if not to all the Members in any case to a large number."

* The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar :—" It may not be possible to allot the first day of the meeting. The second, third and fourth days may be non-official days."

* Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I think it will be suitable. From the attendance of Members this morning and now, the interest of hon. Members seems to flag."

* Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu :—" I quite realize that the attendance is not so good as it ought to be. So far as the convenience is concerned, I myself feel it will be more convenient. But so far as the other Members who have succeeded in getting their resolutions in the ballot are concerned, they attach much importance to their resolutions. Moreover, we have just reached only the first resolution. If necessary, I think it is better to consider this question some time later after we have dealt with some more resolutions and after consulting the convenience of these Members, because the next meeting is proposed to be held on the 28th of October. That means a further ballot which may not be convenient to those Members."

* The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar :—" There is one way of avoiding that impasse. That is, the technical point about the ballot may be got over by some one moving that these resolutions may be adjourned to the 29th October, so that the Secretary to the Legislative Council will have no difficulty in tabling them as they are."

* Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" I think the majority of us were generally of opinion till we dispersed for lunch that we would go on with the non-official work as arranged before. This proposal might well have been considered just before we adjourned for lunch. I think the majority are in favour of going on with the business."

* Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar :—" As one of those who is opposed to that view, I think that if some satisfactory arrangement is come to, it will be more useful to go on with the business with a fully attended House than it is now."

* Mr. K. Uppi Sahib :—" There are resolutions pertaining to certain urgent matters which we cannot afford to postpone, as for instance, the resolution relating to the Andamans affair."

The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar :—" I may say that unless there is a consensus of opinion I do not propose to press my suggestion. If there is a large body of Members who want to go on with the business, I do not want to stand in their way."

* The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" I think we had better proceed with the business."

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO LOCAL BODIES—*cont.*

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I am afraid, Sir, the resolution makes a somewhat inconvenient recommendation. I think if we are to accept that recommendation every one of us including yourself, Mr. Deputy President, will have to be members of the City Corporation. Already there are fifty members in the Corporation, and with these additional 127 members the Council of the City Corporation will be most unwieldy.

" Apart from that, I cannot understand why my hon. Friend who has given notice of this resolution is anxious to have all the Members of the Legislative Councils as members of the local bodies. Is it to secure any advantage to the local bodies, or is it to secure a personal advantage to the Members of this House? If it is the former, it ought to come from the local boards themselves. We have had so many conferences of the local bodies, and in none of these conferences has this suggestion been put forward. If it is for the advantage of the members, it is a different matter; it is open to them to stand for election and get themselves elected as members of the local bodies. The Members of the Legislative Council with the influence they command in their places must be in a position to secure election to local bodies. I do not think that the Government can accept this resolution.

" Besides, this resolution involves legislation. Is it worth while to change the law on the subject to give a few members seats on the local bodies? The claims of members from unrepresented communities have already been considered, and there are as many as 35 members who have been nominated for the local boards and 19 for the municipal councils. In these circumstances, Sir, I am afraid I cannot accept the resolution."

Mr. B. Venkataratnam then spoke in Telugu opposing the resolution

* Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Mr. Deputy President, oftentimes it has been my lot to oppose the hon. the Minister. But on this occasion I am inclined to agree with him. In the text of the resolution, I see unmistakeable signs of revolt and protest against the manner in which nominations are made (1) by the hon. the Minister so far as his nominations are concerned, and (2) by the presidents of district boards in regard to nominations in their charge. So far as the resolution goes, it *ex facie* seems to be impracticable and unworkable. It says, 'that this Council recommends to the Government that all Members of the Legislative Council', and therefore includes the official block, the Government Members I should like to know whether the official Members of the House would attach themselves to certain corporations or local institutions. What about the irremovable Members of Government who are also ex officio Members of the Council and what about the Ministers and what about the other lot of official Members? The resolution goes on to say 'that all Members of the Legislative Council should be appointed to be additional members of the local boards and municipalities within whose local jurisdiction they reside.' No doubt, the point seems to be that so far as nominations are concerned the Ministers are putting in their own men in municipalities and district boards. That is a complaint which I am also prepared to substantiate if it comes to